

### Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Material to be inserted is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[ ]].

Please cancel claims 1-5 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 6 and 7 as indicated below.

1-5 (canceled)

6. (currently amended) **A step support system for use in manufacturing straight or curved stairs, comprising:**  
**a step-support body formed from a contiguous sheet of metal;**  
**a plurality of cutouts proportionate to the rise and run of a desired step;**  
**a plurality of tread-support flanges to which a plurality of treads may be attached**  
**a plurality of riser-support flanges to which a plurality of risers maybe attached;**  
**a flange wherein the step support can be mounted or attached to a structure;**  
**wherein the tread support flanges have slits by which means the step support can flex; and**  
**wherein** ~~The step support of claim 5 with~~ material is laminated on at least one side of ~~stringer~~ **the step-support body.**

7. (currently amended) The step support of claim 6[[5]] with material laminated on at least one side of ~~stringer~~ **the step-support body** providing a surface whereby finished or structural materials can be attached to the underside of stairs.